

As a resident of Atlanta, I am acutely aware of traffic problems. While there is considerable coverage on the internet of potential difficulties, coverage on local radio stations is spotty and sometimes not timely. The XM proposal to initiate continuous coverage of Atlanta traffic is something that is welcome and is a needed service for one of the most congested areas in our country. If the other broadcasters were providing adequate service in other areas, there would be no need for the XM service. But the point is that XM provides some needed competition for radio broadcasters. Previous FCC decisions have permitted consolidation of radio broadcasters into large companies, the result of which has been to degrade radio broadcasts into a stale, canned presentation of a limited playlists of songs. For example, for someone who has eclectic tastes in music, there is no outlet to satisfy my tastes in music on the commercial broadcast band. I listen to everything from old time country music to alternative rock with a little bit of classical, soul, and Sinatra-type vocals mixed in. If I get caught in a traffic jam, then I will switch to one of the comedy stations and listen to a few jokes to take my mind away from the traffic frustrations of Atlanta. More competition is needed for radio broadcasters, not less, so please reject this attempt to restrict competition. The free market is speaking loud and clear about the problems with commercial radio, so please listen to the citizens and reject this anti-competitive proposal. Thank you for your consideration.